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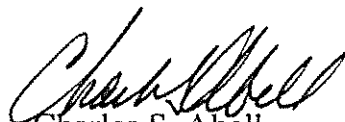
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The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

On behalf of the Secretary of Defense, I have authorized Major General James N. Mattis, United States Marine Corps, to wear the insignia of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777. This approval will not be executed prior to the expiration of the required 30-day congressional notification period. The Senate previously confirmed Major General Mattis as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command and appointment to lieutenant general. Major General Mattis is projected for promotion upon the retirement of the incumbent, Lieutenant General Edward Hanlon, Jr.

Sincerely,


Charles S. Abell
Principal Deputy

cc:

The Honorable Duncan Hunter
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee
The Honorable Ike Skelton
Ranking Member, House Armed Services Committee

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